



Strengthening Social Cohesion among Host Communities and Rohingya Refugees

Since August 2017, the lives of communities living in Cox's Bazar District have been deeply affected by the Rohingya refugee crisis. With over 1 million Rohingya residing in Cox's Bazar, the impact upon lives has been severe with immense strain being placed on economies, ecosystems and emotions. The influx has aggravated tensions between host communities and Rohingya whilst putting additional pressure on the already fragile socio-economic structure in the region.

To build peaceful and inclusive societies and prevent mounting tensions, United Purpose are delivering a multi-layered approach to bring together communities to work collaboratively towards the same objective.

Peace and development go hand-in-hand. In this context, we believe that local community leaders, local authorities, religious leaders, displaced populations, women, youth, adolescents and a multitude of other key stakeholders should play a central role in assessing and identifying pressure points and prioritise interventions that address grievances.

In November 2018, United Purpose began implementing the Strengthening Social Cohesion among Host Communities and Rohingya in Bangladesh project, funded by the IOM. Initially a six-month intervention, the project has been extended for two years and will work through a network of passionate Community Mobilisers to reduce conflict through

citizen engagement, specifically youth engagement,

building community resilience through restoration of environment and livelihoods opportunities.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Objective: Strengthen resilience and promote social cohesion among the affected host communities and camp inhabitants

Output 1 Reduced conflict through citizen engagement to promote social cohesion

Output 2 Enhanced resilience of communities through restoration of environment and strengthened livelihoods

KEY FACTS

Budget: USD 443,589 (6 month)
USD 1.6 million (2 years)

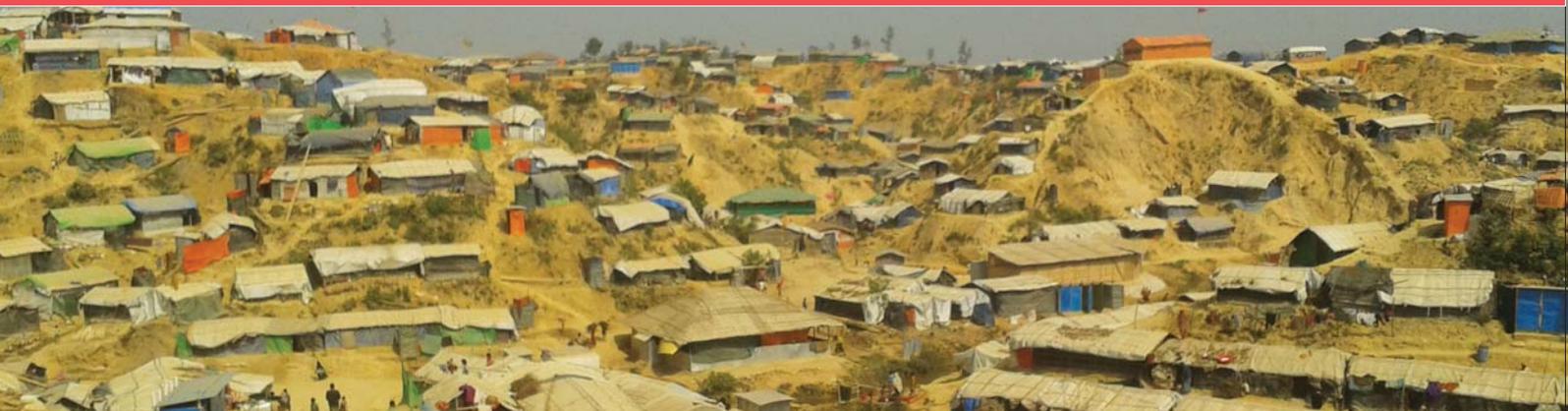
Donor: IOM (International Organisation for Migration)

Duration: November 2018—April 2021

Sector: Social Cohesion and Livelihoods

Host communities: 5 Unions (Rajapalong, Jaliapalong, Palongkhali, Ratnapalong and Halদিapalong) in Ukhiya upazila, Cox's Bazar

Rohingya communities Camps: 9, 11 and 12



ACTIVITIES

In order to achieve the project's overall objective of strengthening resilience and promoting social cohesion amongst the affected communities and camp inhabitants, activities are being implemented under two outputs.

In order to promote social cohesion, the project is reducing conflict through citizen engagement (output1):

- Forming neighborhood youth spaces
- Conducting conflict analysis leadership training
- Conducting community based dispute management meetings
- Establishing community policing forums
- Holding sports, arts and cultural activities to build trust and cohesion

Going beyond specific activities focused on improving social cohesion, the project is enhancing resilience through disaster risk reduction and strengthened livelihoods (output 2):

- Youth training on life, career and ICT skills
- Establishing Women and Youth Business Centres to support entrepreneurship
- Train Local Service Providers in poultry rearing, fish farming, homestead gardening, cow rearing and horticulture
- Supporting people living with disabilities
- Training schools on risk reduction and school resilience
- Small-scale mitigation measures for DRR

